



MLDS CENTER

Maryland Longitudinal Data System

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MEMORANDUM

TO: MLDS Governing Board
FROM: Ross Goldstein
DATE: November 22, 2019
SUBJECT: 2020 Legislation

Career Preparation Expansion Act (CPEA) requires MHEC to collect and provide to the MLDS the following information:

- Professional and occupational licenses from Department of Labor and Department of Health;
- Vocational certificates from Maryland Community Colleges; and
- Industry certifications from a national certifier that receives state funds.

The Center, in collaboration with MHEC, began working to implement the above requirement. It was mutually decided that the Center would directly collect the data under MHEC's authority. Both parties felt that the direct approach was more efficient and limited the risk and exposure created by having to transfer data multiple times.

However, several concerns were raised by the Assistant Attorney General for the Department of Health (MDH). First, MDH noted that there was no explicit requirement to provide personally identifiable information. Without a direct legal requirement, MDH stated that they could not provide PII data. Secondly, MDH was concerned about providing their data directly to the Center, since the statute required MHEC to collect the data. Finally, MDH felt that there was a lack of representation on the Governing Board.

To address those concerns, changes to the current law are being proposed.

- Authorizing the MLDS Center to directly collect the above information and removes the requirement from MHEC;
- Specifying that the data must include personally identifiable information, which had not been explicitly stated and was a concern for the Department of Health;
- Adding a representative of the executive directors of the Health Occupations Boards to the MLDS Governing Board, which addressed the Department of Health's concern about the lack of representation on the MLDS Governing Board; and
- Classifying the above data as "student data," which had not been done in the prior bill, but was necessary to fit in the structure of the MLDS statute.

The proposed changes have been discussed and reviewed with AAGs from MHEC, Labor, Health and MLDS and all are on board with the changes. Staff also shared the legislation with Delegate Clippinger who was the original House sponsor of the Career Preparation Act. He was comfortable with changes. The Governor's legislative director has also been informed.